[*English*]

Re-opening of Punalur Paper Mill

2467 SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps for re-opening of Punalur Paper mill,

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala and present management of the mill or from any other Government undertakings,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF P J KURIEN) (a) to (d) State Government of Kerala had requested the Government of India to consider taking over the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd by Hindustan Newsprint Limited (HNL) HNL, after conducting a feasibility study have found that it will not be viable to run the Punalur Paper Mills Ltd in the present State of its plant and machinery and have, therefore, expressed their inability to take over the management of M/s Punalur Paper Mills Ltd

Interaction Amongst the Municipal Committees

2468 SHRI PRATAPRAO B BHONSLE Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether in order to develop urban areas the Government propose to take some steps to ensure better municipal management ands smoother interction amongst the municipal Committees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) (a) and (b) In order to provide a constitutional status and a common framework to all the urban local bodies throughout the country, this Ministry has introduced in the Lok Sabha, the Constitution (Seventy Third Amendment) Bill on 16 9 91 The Bill at present is under consideration of the Joint Committee of the Parliament, Provisions incorporated in the Bill provide for putting on a firmer footing the relationship between the State Government and Urban Local Bodies with reference to the functions and texations, powers and arrangements for revenue sharing Other provisions of the Bill provide for the Constitution of the Municipalities, their powers (including financial powers, functions, reservations of seat for SC/ST and women, regular conduct of elections, durations of Municipalities, setting up of a Finance Commission at the State level at regular intervals to review financial position of Municipalities Audit of accounts of Municipal Corporations by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Elections to the Municipality and disqualification for membership etc

Decline in Index of Industrial Production

2469 SHRI RUPCHAND PAL Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether general index of industrial production has recorded a decline in the first six months of 1991 92 as compared to the growth of 8 6 percent in the same period during 1990 91,

(b) if so, the rate of decline recorded in